

## PRESS RELEASE HOUSE MAJORITY OFFICE

June 22, 2023

**Press Contact:** 

Hannah Kurowski, hannah.kurowski@oregonlegislature.gov

## **Early Literacy Success Initiative Passes the House**

House Bill 3198 supports evidence-based, culturally responsive literacy strategies in and outside of the classroom, setting up Oregon students for future academic success

**SALEM, Ore.** - Earlier today, the House passed the **Early Literacy Success Initiative** (House Bill 3198) with strong bipartisan support. The initiative invests in research-aligned literacy instruction in Oregon classrooms and develops and expands student and family-centered early literacy supports.

"We know that by investing in evidence-based practices we can increase literacy rates, giving Oregon's young learners the educational foundation they deserve and desperately need," **said Representative Jason Kropf** (D-Bend), **chief sponsor of the bill**. "With the Early Literacy Success Initiative, we are taking important steps forward in addressing our state's literacy crisis."

In schools, funding will go toward literacy coaching and professional development for educators, high-dosage tutoring, the adoption and implementation of curriculum, and summer learning programming.

Investing in early literacy has shown to have <u>long-term positive impacts</u> on state graduation rates, preventing dropouts and helping students succeed.

In total, the Early Literacy Success Initiative invests \$144.3 million across three new grant programs: the Early Literacy Success School Grant, the Birth Through Five Literacy Plan, and the Early Literacy Success Community Grant. This funding is in addition to <a href="record investments">record investments</a> made in the state's education system this session.

House Bill 3198 passed 51-1 and now heads to the Senate for consideration.